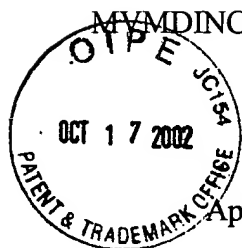


12/a
B. Webb
10/24/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicant : Erik J. van der Burg et al.) Group Art Unit 3761
Appl. No. : 09/435,562)
Filed : November 8, 1999)
For : METHOD AND DEVICE FOR)
LEFT ATRIAL APPENDAGE)
OCCLUSION)
Examiner : Glenn K. Dawson)

AMENDMENT

United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

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OCT 21 2002
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 30, 2002, please amend the above-captioned patent application as set forth below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claim 46, without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows:

38. (Amended) An occlusion device, for occluding a hollow body structure, comprising:
a proximal end, a distal end, and a longitudinal axis extending therethrough;
at least three supports extending between the proximal end and the distal end;
each support comprising an elongate, flexible element which is movable from a first orientation in which the element extends substantially parallel to the axis at no more than a first distance from the axis, to a second orientation in which at least a portion of the element is inclined with respect to the axis and is separated by at least a second distance from the axis which is greater than the first distance; and

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